Application No.: 10/075,624 Docket No.: R2180.0121/P121

## **REMARKS**

Claims 2-5, 16-19 and 30-35 have been amended and claims 1, 15 and 29 have been canceled to further the prosecution of the application. Claims 2-14, 16-28 and 30-42 are pending in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this application and in other applications.

Claims 2-14, 16-28 and 30-42 stand objected to in this Office Action as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but are otherwise allowable. Claims 2, 4, 16, 18, 30 and 32 have been rewritten as independent claims including their respective base claims and any intervening claims, which the Examiner has indicated would place claims 2-14, 16-28 and 30-42 in condition for allowance. Claims 1, 15 and 29 have been canceled. Accordingly, all rejections and objections should be overcome and claims 2-14, 16-28 and 30-42 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 5, 17, 19 and 31-35 have been amended solely to correct minor typographical errors and not to overcome any prior art.

Application No.: 10/075,624 Docket No.: R2180.0121/P121

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Dated: October 24, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By\_\_\_\_\_Thomas J. D'Amico

Registration No.: 28,371

Gianni Minutoli

Registration No.: 41,198

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &

OSHINSKY LLP

2101 L Street NW

Washington, DC 20037-1526

(202) 785-9700

Attorneys for Applicants